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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: ) Attorney Docket No.: E-731  
Linda V. Gravel, et al. ) International Application No.:  
PCT/US98/12091  
Serial No.: 09/242,210 )  
Filed: June 12, 1998 ) Date: November 1, 1999  
Title: VIRTUAL POSTAGE METERING SYSTEM

**PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 CFR 1.136(a))**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a petition for an extension of time for a period of one (1) month to respond to the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 USC 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office mailed on August 30, 1999.

A response in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested is filed herewith.

The fee for a one (1) month extension of time is \$110.00. Please charge this fee and any additional extension fee required or credit any excess fee paid to Deposit Account Number **16-1885**. A duplicate copy of this petition is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Malandra, Jr.  
Reg. No. 31,038  
Attorney of Record  
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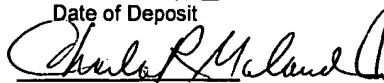
PITNEY BOWES INC.  
Intellectual Property and  
Technology Law Department  
35 Waterview Drive  
P.O. Box 3000  
Shelton, CT 06484-8000

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

on November 1, 1999  
Date of Deposit



Signature

Charles R. Malandra, Jr.  
Name of Registered Rep.

November 1, 1999  
Date